

CRUISE



WEEKLY



Tuesday 12 Jan 2016

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

P&O Cyclone reroute

PACIFIC *Aria's* call into Mystery Island yesterday was called off as P&O opts to stay "well away from Cyclone Ula".

The vessel instead took a more northerly course on the way to Mare, where was scheduled to arrive at 0800 local time today.

The weather is forecast to be fine in Mare.

Carnival cruises are currently unaffected by the cyclone.

Meanwhile, on Fri, *Pacific Pearl* arrived late into Sydney due to poor weather conditions.

The cruise line said a low pressure trough required the ship to travel at a reduced speed "to ensure the comfort of all guests and crew."

The ship departed Fri evening on her next voyage - a three-night food and wine cruise.

Weather conditions spilled over to Sat morning, with *Pacific Eden* running five hours behind after she was also required to decrease speed, but sailed on her scheduled itinerary on Sat night.

American Cruise appt

RICK Simonson has taken up the role of Southeast sales manager at American Cruise Lines.

Simonson brings 30 years' experience in the hospitality and cruising industry and specialises in riverboat & small ship cruising.

He was previously regional sales director of American Queen Steamboat Company.

Cruise Holidays surges to 60

THE home-based cruise specialist network trading under the Cruise Holidays brand has reported a strong 2015, with double-digit sales growth and more than 60 members across the country.

Les Farrar, managing director of parent company Your Travel & Cruise Pty Ltd, has also announced a new partnership with Travel Training Australia which offers agents access to exclusive training modules.

The training program includes content on how to build agent businesses plus other services such as an airfares help desk and an Agent Connect program which allows consultants to collaborate and share information.

"By partnering with a dedicated training company we bring a level

of expertise and professionalism into our development program to make it the best of its kind within the home based sector," he said.

"Whilst recruiting new agents is important, the nurturing of our existing agents is just as crucial, and supports our philosophy of being a 'host agency' working behind the scenes to help our individual agents' businesses".

Cruise Holidays launched in Australia almost four years ago (**CW** 01 Mar 2012), with Queensland-based CruiseMart becoming Australia's first master franchisor of the US-based brand.



HAL shakes up menu

HOLLAND America Line has partnered with master mixologist Dale DeGroff to launch a new cocktail menu.

The menu will debut aboard *ms Eurodam* this month and will expand fleetwide by springtime.

Creations include the Gallery Gimlet, Hemingway Daiquiri, Yuzu Margarita and The Ritz Cocktail.

Cocaine ploy busted

FIVE men, three of which are crewman of *Norwegian Dawn* have been arrested and accused of smuggling several kilograms of cocaine into New Orleans on a cruise from Honduras.

The smuggled cocaine weighed about 4.75 kilograms, The New Orleans Advocate reported.

Ponton on Carnival

PERSONAL trainer Shannan Ponton will be aboard two Carnival cruises departing Sydney in Apr and Nov.

Ponton will run a new nutrition advice seminar, in addition to his Biggest Bootcamp at Sea classes and motivational seminars.

Carnival Spirit's 10-night cruise to New Caledonia and Vanuatu with Shannan departs 15 Apr and Shannan will also be onboard *Carnival Legend* for a 10-night cruise to New Caledonia and Vanuatu departing 26 Nov.

See www.carnival.com.au.



Brochure Spotlight

G Adventures Marine 2016



G ADVENTURES 2016

Marine brochure features the company's new journeys aboard small ships, yachts and catamarans.

It includes new river cruises including a trip down the Amazon led by an Amazon Reserve naturalist guide where those aboard will spot sloths, toucans and pink dolphins.

New to 2016 are cruises to the Mekong, a thriving trade route for six countries, the Ganges, where passengers can absorb Buddhist culture and a new river cruise down the canals that feed France's wine country on the eight-day Dijon to Dijon cruise.

There are also trips to Antarctica, the Arctic, up the West coast of South America, Europe and Thailand.

See the back of the brochure for the Adventure index.

For more info or to order a brochure, call 1300 796 618.



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UPDATE

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Beyond mates rate

BEYOND Travel is offering the eight-day 'Adriatic Classic' cruise to agents from only \$750 plus taxes of \$140, normally priced up to \$2,890 per person.

The cruise is available as a Dubrovnik roundtrip, or as one-way sectors between Dubrovnik and Zadar.

Agents can bring a friend along for only \$895 plus taxes.

The offer applies to select departures in May and Jun and must be booked by 29 Jan - email sales@beyondtravel.com.au.

Snorkelling death

A PASSENGER aboard Princess Cruises' *Caribbean Princess* died last week during a snorkelling excursion in Belize.

The 67-year-old woman reportedly disappeared while snorkelling off Sargent's Caye, and while she was quickly located and pulled from the water a local police spokesperson said she was unable to be revived.

Brissy's new terminal

THE Qld Government will consider a proposal for a second cruise ship terminal near Brisbane Airport in late Jan or early Feb, *Brisbane Times* is reporting.

The \$100m project, proposed by Royal Caribbean International and Carnival Cruises would cater for mega-cruise ships.

The Port of Brisbane set aside about 20 hectares on the northern side of the Brisbane River last year (**CW** 07 Apr 15).

P&O New Year fares

P&O Cruises is running its "Biggest Ever Offer", with the line offering up to five inclusions on cruises booked by 25 Feb.

Offers include up to \$300 onboard credit per room, a free soft drink package, an upgrade from an interior room to an oceanview room, a bonus mystery shore tour on cruises of seven nights or longer and half-priced deposits.

See www.wlcl.com.au.

Eden's Eden debut



P&O'S newest ship, *Pacific Eden* made her maiden visit to her namesake port on Sun.

Docking in Eden harbour in the morning, her 1,500 guests spent the day soaking up NSW's Sapphire Coast.

P&O Cruises Australia President Sture Myrmell said "Eden has the only deep water harbour between Sydney and Melbourne, making it an ideal cruise destination for our increasingly popular short break cruises and regional itineraries."

The visit was the first cruise call of the year for the town, with *Pacific Eden* on an eight-night roundtrip Sydney itinerary which visits only regional towns.

Active travel 2-for-1

ACTIVE Travel is offering a buy-one-get-one-free deal on Indian River Cruises in Apr, for bookings by 26 Feb.

Alternatively, solo pax can cruise without paying a supplement.

See activetravel.com.au.

Cruising comedy deal

COMEDY production and distribution company, Comedy Dynamics' catalogue will be available through Global Eagle Entertainment (GEE) to Carnival, Costa, Holland America, Norwegian, Oceania, Princess and Royal Caribbean from 15 Jan.

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Cruise Calendar

This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY
Azamara Quest 14 Jan
Noordam 15 Jan
Dawn Princess 16 Jan
Pacific Eden 17 Jan
Explorer of the Seas 17 Jan
Carnival Legend 18 Jan

MELBOURNE
Pacific Eden 12 Jan
Azamara Quest 18 Jan

BRISBANE
Sea Princess 12 Jan
Pacific Aria 15 Jan
Pacific Dawn 16 Jan
Legend of the Seas 17 Jan

ADELAIDE
True North 12 Jan

ALBANY
Astor 13 Jan

FREMANTLE
Astor 15 Jan
Astor 18 Jan

CAIRNS
Legend of the Seas 13 Jan

WHITSUNDAYS
Legend of the Seas 12 Jan
Pacific Dawn 18 Jan

AUCKLAND
Dawn Princess 12 Jan
Voyager of the Seas 12 Jan
Explorer of the Seas 13 Jan
Diamond Princess 14 Jan

WELLINGTON
Caledonian Sky 12 Jan
Celebrity Solstice 15 Jan
Voyager of the Seas 15 Jan
Golden Princess 16 Jan
Diamond Princess 17 Jan
Le Soleal 18 Jan

AKAROA
Coral Discoverer 13 Jan

United Travel incentive win



LINDBLAD Expeditions - National Geographic have named United Travel at the Mount, from Mount Maunganui, New Zealand as the winner of their latest incentive.

The agency will receive AU\$1,000 for the campaign which celebrated the release of the 2016/17 Explorations brochure.

Their caption was: "On a stormy night deep in the heart of Mount Galapagos...A beautiful red/yellow breasted penguin Lindy I believe...was discovered by Julia and Amanda surrounded by some rather interesting wildlife."

To enter, agents were required to take a creative selfie with the Explorations brochure or a #lindypenguin cut-out.

Highly commended entries included Alpha Travel in Claremont & Helloworld Toronto.

MSC Cruises promo

MSC Cruises' latest campaign offers passengers the choice of a bonus onboard credit or complimentary transfer, spa package or drinks package.

The deal applies to pax travelling Apr 2016-May 2017.

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Wu's river brochure

WENDY Wu Tours has introduced a dedicated Asia River Cruise brochure for 2016/17.

Managing director Alan Alcock said "The clear message from the trade was they required our cruise products to be differentiated from our entire product range."

The program stretches across China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and India.

Luxury vessel *Sanctuary Yangzi Explorer* in China has been introduced for 2016, along with the *Oberoi MV Vrinda* in India.



FANCY a butler on hand for your morning commute?

Well, next Mon those partaking in their usual weekday travel via Waterloo Station in London will be greeted with one, along with some other perks of a luxury cruise ship.

The quirky event is a marketing strategy by Celebrity Cruises to showcase the onboard service while simultaneously cheering up those with the Mon blues.

The pop-up version of Celebrity Cruises Lawn Club will take place at Waterloo's taxi rank.

Free refreshments will be available and commuters can enter a competition to win a VIP chauffeur-driven journey home, complete with a luxury food hamper and wine picked by Celebrity Cruises' wine expert Oz Clarke.

Well that's one way to make chilly London look more appealing.

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